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NOTICES

Das Wirtschaftsjahr 1906. Von RICHARD CALWER. Erste Teil: Handel und Wandel. Jena: Gustav Fischer, 1907. 8vo, pp vii+341.

This issue contains a very convenient summary of conditions during 1906 in nearly all lines of industry, primarily with reference to Germany, but with some mention of other countries. The field treated covers the growth of industry, the kartells, the labor market, strikes and lockouts, agricultural conditions, mining, the metal trades and machinery, the textile industry, the provision trade, the building trade, the money market and the banks, foreign trade and transportation, incomes, and prices.

Human Justice for Those at the Bottom. An Appeal to Those at the Top.

By E. C. COTTERILL. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1907. 8vo, pp. x+226.

This volume is a sincere and heartfelt appeal by one who sees the wretchedness, poverty, and hopelessness in the life of the lowest classes, and has a noble faith that the human nature of the upper class will lead it to offer its money and services with the spirit of neighborly love for the alleviation of this suffering, if only it can be led to realize what the conditions really are. The fundamental cause of these evils is declared to be the modern industrial system with its religion of free and unrestricted competition. Great stress is laid on compulsory education as having largely caused the present unrest by opening the eyes of the lowest classes. The obstacles to action are stated to be insufficient realization by the upper class of the injustice of the situation, its pitifulness, its curability, and finally, their responsibility for it; hedonism and the present commercial system, the failure to divorce social questions from party politics, an unwillingness to face the plain facts, and undemocratic system of education, a weak sense of national duty and lack of serious thought and imagination, a mistaken view of human nature, and the absence of a plan of action. If the upper class sincerely strives by means of its money and services to help the lowest class it will by its example start a movement ending in justice, kindness, love, the author's definition of socialism.

Wilshire Editorials. By GAYLORD WILSHIRE. New York: Wilshire Book Co., 1907. Pp. 407.

This book is a collection of Mr. Wilshire's editorials which have appeared in the *Challenge* and *Wilshire's Magazine*. The editorials were written for propaganda purposes and, for the most part, are variations of a single theme. Mr. Wilshire believes that the trust is a necessary outcome of overproduction. He claims that the trusts will be able to check overproduction, but that in so doing they will bring about an enormous unemployed problem. When this problem is upon us—and according to Mr. Wilshire the time is not far distant—the workers will be forced to assume control of the means of production and distribution to secure for themselves the necessities of life. Thus will the co-operative commonwealth be inaugurated. The sketches are written in an easy, journalistic style and doubtless contain an element of truth. It is rather amusing, however, to observe Mr Wilshire's attempts to get a full orchestral effect from a single one-stringed instrument.